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Into The Music



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Chapter 1 by alice hardaker

“Everything has a beginning, everything has an end and everything, every little thing in life, is the middle of it all” came the cry from the old man stood clutching the bible at the train station. Jack was stood there, guitar in hand, wondering what the hell he was talking about. Considering how he was a lead guitarist and main songwriter in his band “The Devils”, you’d have thought they’d all travel down together. Well, the falling out they had a month ago on stage appeared to have stopped all that. Maybe the guy with the bible had it slightly wrong. The beginning was the start of the band, the middle was the argument, the end was the split? You never know now Jack thought to himself. He then laughed a little as the train started to pull in. He was now finally on his way to Manchester to play their gig.

A little history lesson for you on the band, The Devils: They formed five years ago at Jack’s school “Spirit Academy”. At first it was just Jack and his friend Nigel. Now when they met Jack was sixteen and Nigel was seventeen. At first, it was just them two as a two-piece acoustic band but Nigel hated that idea. This led to the encounter with Peter on drums. Peter was only fourteen and wasn’t the best in the world but they both decided he’d do for now. Five months later after their first gig at a school hall (attendance ten people who were friends) they knew they needed a bassist and rhythm guitarist. That’s where Steven and Sarah came in. Steven joined the band as rhythm guitarist. Sarah was the bassist because she was Steven’s sister. He said that he wouldn’t join unless she did. So she became a permanent fixture, especially after Nigel had sex with her within a week. Steven was older by two years. The ages of the band at their first proper gig as The Devils were: Nigel 18, Steven, 18, Jack 17, Sarah 16 and Peter 15. Their first gig consisted of just ten songs, eight originals and two covers

Anyway, by the time we get back to the train station, it was five years later and they had just finished their first ever UK tour and they got to Liverpool hall and started to have a bit of a goal him. Jack was putting it down to the drugs Nigel was taking and so he tried to ignore

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him. Three songs later and Nigel started again. Jack had enough now so he decided that it was over. He threw the guitar down said sorry to the crowd and told Nigel that he ruined it for the lot of them. Little did he realise that Steven would take the guitar off the floor and take over. After the gig, they argued about it and Nigel started beating Jack up. This was when he walked out and said he'd make his own way to the next gig which was Manchester.

So, back to being on the train and by this point he'd already decided that if it happened again he'd quit the band but he just didn't know if he actually had it in him to walk out. So he got to Manchester, got to the Manchester University Academy only to realise he was the only member of the band there. He spotted his manager hanging around and he asked him where they were and his reply? "No idea, thought they were with you. Are they not with you then?" To which Jack laughed and said, in a sarcastic tone, "Oh yeah, I plain forgot they were with me, that's why I asked you!" Jack then walked off to do a sound check.

After an hour on his own, the manager came over and told him that the gig will have to be cancelled if they didn't turn up. Jack's response was an obvious one. "Cancel? You're joking right? No, no way man. This gig will go ahead even if I have to do a one man show". You could see in Jack's eyes that he knew exactly what he was going to do after the gig. Another hour flew by and the rest of them finally turned up Nigel out of it again and the rest of them drunk. Jack just thought to himself Your having a laugh now. That's it, I've had enough! They proceeded to do the gig. At the end, Jack went over to the manager and told him, "You can tell them I'm out of here. I've had enough now. I'd rather go solo than play some music with them. Oh and don't forget. I write the songs in this band!" Then Jack walked out and set off for home.

Jack stayed with his mum while he turned his mobile phone off, he decided that he didn't care about them anymore and that, if they were really bothered then they would have listened to him and actually turned up on time for the gig. When he eventually turned the phone on, he was shocked nobody left any messages. Maybe he wasn't missed? Na, that can't be right. They NEED me with them he thought to himself.

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